

**ABSTRACT**

An implant analog is for supporting an article that is used to develop a dental prosthesis. The analog provides a main body for being anchored in a model of a mouth of a patient. The main body includes an upper surface for contacting the article that is used to develop a dental prosthesis. The analog includes a groove extending inward  
5 along a periphery of the main body below the upper surface for receiving a soft modeling material that replicates gingival tissue. Material for forming a soft tissue model flows into the groove to create a corresponding rib in the soft tissue model that allows the soft tissue model to be properly registered on the underlying stone model.